



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Notice of Intent to Request Revision and Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to request revision and extension of a currently approved information collection, Objective Yield Surveys. Minor changes to burden will be needed due to changes in the size of the target population, sampling design, and/or questionnaire length.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number 0535-0088, by any of the following methods:

- E-mail: ombofficer@nass.usda.gov. Include docket number above in the subject line of the message.
- eFax: (855) 838-6382
- Mail: Mail any paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions to: Richard Hopper, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5336 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-2024.

- Hand Delivery/Courier: Hand deliver to: Richard Hopper, NASS
Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5336 South
Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kevin Barnes, Associate

Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture,
(202) 720-2707. Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be
obtained without charge from Richard Hopper, NASS Clearance Officer, at (202) 720-
2206 or at ombofficer@nass.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Objective Yield Surveys.

OMB Control Number: 0535-0088.

Expiration Date of Approval: March 31, 2023.

Type of Request: To revise and extend a currently approved information collection for a
period of three years.

Abstract: The primary objective of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is
to collect, prepare and issue State and national estimates of crop and livestock production,
prices and disposition as well as economic statistics, farm numbers, land values, on-farm
pesticide usage, pest crop management practices, as well as the Census of Agriculture.

The Objective Yield Surveys objectively predict yields for corn, cotton, potatoes,
soybeans, wheat, citrus, almonds, walnuts, and hazelnuts. Sample fields are randomly
selected for these crops, plots are laid out, and periodic counts and measurements are
taken and then used to forecast production during the growing season. Production
forecasts are published in USDA crop reports.

The fruit and nut objective yield surveys are conducted under cooperative agreements with
several State Departments of Agriculture. The individual States will be reimbursing
NASS for the costs associated with these additional surveys. The surveys will include:

California citrus, almonds and walnuts; Florida citrus; and Oregon hazelnuts.

The increased burden hours and sample sizes reported below include these additional surveys.

Authority: These data will be collected under the authority of 7 U.S.C. 2204(a).

Individually identifiable data collected under this authority are governed by Section 1770 of the Food Security Act of 1985 as amended, 7 U.S.C. 2276, which requires USDA to afford strict confidentiality to non-aggregated data provided by respondents. This Notice is submitted in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.) and Office of Management and Budget regulations at 5 CFR part 1320.

All NASS employees and NASS contractors must also fully comply with all provisions of the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act (CIPSEA) of 2018, Title III of Pub. L. No. 115-435, codified in 44 U.S.C. Ch. 35. CIPSEA supports NASS's pledge of confidentiality to all respondents and facilitates the agency's efforts to reduce burden by supporting statistical activities of collaborative agencies through designation of NASS agents, subject to the limitations and penalties described in CIPSEA.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average between 2 and 30 minutes per respondent.

Respondents: Farmers, ranchers, or farm managers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 13,500.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 4,500 hours.

Comments: Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of

the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, technological or other forms of information technology collection methods.

All responses to this notice will become a matter of public record and be summarized in the request for OMB approval.

Signed at Washington, D.C., October 18, 2022

Kevin Barnes,
Associate Administrator.

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